

House Resolution 645

By: Representatives Porter of the 143rd, Keen of the 179th, and Graves of the 137th

A RESOLUTION

1 Commending Reverend James H. Rush; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Reverend James H. Rush is serving with dedication as the Superintendent of
3 Epworth by the Sea, a renowned conference and retreat center owned and operated by the
4 South Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church and located along the banks of
5 the Frederica River to the Marshes of Glynn on St. Simons Island; and

6 WHEREAS, a native of Columbus, Georgia, Reverend Rush graduated from Asbury College,
7 Asbury Theological Seminary and has done post-graduate study at the University of London
8 and continuing education at the College of William and Mary; and

9 WHEREAS, his ministerial career began as associate pastor at St. Luke United Methodist
10 Church in Columbus, and continued across south and middle Georgia at Midland United
11 Methodist Church in the Columbus District, Pine Forest United Methodist Church in Dublin,
12 Park Avenue United Methodist Church in Valdosta, Isle of Hope in Savannah, as the
13 Statesboro District Superintendent, and as senior pastor at Vineville United Methodist
14 Church in Macon; and

15 WHEREAS, throughout his ministry, Reverend Rush has been active in numerous church
16 and civic programs, serving as an Epworth trustee, on the Board of Directors of Macon
17 Outreach, trustee of the Georgia Council on Moral and Civic Concerns, as vice-president of
18 the South Georgia Council on Finance and Administration, and as a member of the South
19 Georgia Conference Foundation; and

20 WHEREAS, on the national level, fellow clergy elected Reverend Rush to lead the clergy
21 delegation to the General Conference in 2002, he has served as a delegate to the General and
22 Jurisdictional Conference, he represented the South Georgia Conference at the 1988, 1992,
23 1996, 2000, and 2004 General and Jurisdictional Conferences, and was unanimously
24 nominated by the South Georgia Conference delegation as a nominee for the episcopacy; and

1 WHEREAS, in recognition of the difficulties pastors often face in taking time away for
2 family holiday, study, and renewal, Reverend Rush is known for generously offering to
3 substitute for pastors at no expense to a congregation; and

4 WHEREAS, known for his affable qualities and outgoing personality, Reverend Rush is a
5 friend to people from all walks of life and all ages, and children especially enjoy his
6 gregarious nature; and

7 WHEREAS, Reverend Rush is married to the former Barbara Beyerlein, and they are the
8 proud parents of David and Patti, and doting grandparents to Patti's children, Katherine Hope,
9 Grace, and Sam, and David's children, Kallie and "Doc."

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
11 the members of this body commend Reverend James H. Rush for his distinguished ministry.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
13 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Reverend Rush.